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WEATHER & CROPS



Week of: April 10 - 16, 2006

Number: 6

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CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 16, 2006

Dry conditions are improving after some much needed rain fell across the Commonwealth this week. Days suitable for field work were 6.0. Average rainfall for the week was 0.33 inches, and the average temperature was 59 degrees. Hail was reported in some areas as most areas of the state received some rainfall. Small grain stands are short and starting to head. Some small grain producers are concerned that the dry conditions will adversely impact yields. Hay continues to be a concern for livestock producers. Many have already fed most of the stored hay because pastures have been slow to grow. Tobacco transplants in greenhouses are progressing well. Corn planting continues, with some corn emerging nicely. Vegetable producers are preparing raised beds to plant peppers, tomatoes, and melons. It was reported that Virginia's peach crop suffered some damage from late frost. The strawberry crop is beginning to ripen and is expected to do very well. Other farm activities included preparing fields to plant cotton and full-season soybean, applying fertilizers and lime, and other field preparations.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
April 2, 2006	52	35	13	0
April 9, 2006	42	38	19	1
April 16, 2006	32	47	21	0

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	11	35	36	17	1
Livestock	1	9	31	55	4
Other Hay	14	34	44	8	0
Alfalfa Hay	6	31	44	19	0
Winter Wheat	2	11	47	36	4
Barley	1	15	45	34	5
All Apples	0	7	39	54	0
Peaches	0	20	53	27	0
Grapes	0	5	35	57	3

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT - WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average
Corn Planted	30	16	17	21
Corn Emerged	8	NA	3	1
Cotton Planted	10	0	3	1

Weather Summary for the Week Ending April 16, 2006							
Weather Station	Temperature (degrees Fahrenheit)				Precipitation (inches)		
	HI	LO	Average	Departure From Normal	TOTAL	Departure From Normal	Days
NORTHERN							
Woodstock	79	30	57	4	0.53	-0.10	4
Warrenton	82	36	59	7	0.11	-0.64	3
Winchester 7 SE	80	29	56	5	0.33	-0.37	3
Dale Enterprise	79	28	57	6	0.59	0.03	4
WESTERN							
Glasgow	85	31	59	6	1.00	0.37	1
Roanoke AP	85	35	63	9	0.40	-0.33	1
Waynesboro	82	31	57	7	0.59	-0.04	2
Staunton AG	81	32	59	9	0.57	-0.06	2
CENTRAL							
Charlottesville	86	31	62	7	0.36	-0.36	2
Piedmont Res ST	85	38	62	9	0.34	-0.35	2
Bremo Bluff	88	29	60	6	0.32	-0.33	2
Richmond AP	88	32	62	7	0.29	-0.34	1
EASTERN							
Eastville	79	36	58	3	0.79	0.16	3
Wallops Island	81	34	59	5	0.33	-0.20	1
Williamsburg	87	35	63	7	0.27	-0.36	2
Keysville	90	31	61	7	0.17	-0.53	1
SOUTHWESTERN							
Blacksburg AG	82	28	57	8	0.11	-0.73	1
Wytheville	79	29	56	8	0.00	-0.70	0
Saltville	82	29	57	6	0.00	-0.84	0
Richlands	82	28	58	12	0.19	-0.65	1
SOUTHERN							
Stuart	88	31	61	8	0.03	-0.94	1
Danville AG	91	33	62	6	0.00	-0.73	0
Chatham	89	28	58	5	0.05	-0.72	1
Martinsville	87	30	57	4	0.40	-0.42	2
SOUTHEASTERN							
Norfolk VA	85	37	61	6	0.33	-0.37	3
Oceana	86	34	60	5	0.22	-0.41	3
Emporia	87	33	59	5	0.07	-0.63	2
Newport News	87	32	62	6	0.91	0.21	3

Departure from Normal based on 1961-90 Normals.
Precipitation Days=Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.